

**NEW SUNLIGHT MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH**

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Bible Fed, Spirit Led

**New Member's Orientation and
Study Class**

Rev. Dale W. Flowers, Pastor

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Table of Contents

Introduction.....	Page 1
Welcome from Pastor.....	Page 2
Church History.....	Page 3
Our Mission and Motto.....	Page 5
Lesson 1 The Holy Trinity	
God The Father.....	Page 6
God The Son.....	Page 9
God The Holy Spirit.....	Page 12
Lesson 2 Salvation	
Salvation.....	Page 14
The Church.....	Page 18
Ordinances of the Church.....	Page 20
Lesson 3 God's Word, Prayer and Tithe	
The Holy Bible.....	Page 25
Prayer.....	Page 29
Tithe and Offering.....	Page 31
Lesson 4 Ministries of New Sunlight	
Ministries.....	Page 34
Five Principles.....	Page 36
Closing Statement.....	Page 37

Greetings,

We are all excited that you have chosen to become a member of the Lord's family here at the New Sunlight Baptist Church. As a child of God you have been granted the same rights, advantages, privileges and protection He provides for all that belong to Him. New Sunlight Baptist Church is a church where all are accepted for who we are, forgiven of what we've done and loved because of Christ. As a member of His family God has a purpose for you to fulfill. We, as the body of Christ, follow His will and work together as one (I Corinthians 12: 12-31). This booklet and course is an introduction to New Sunlight. There are various ministries which will allow you to fulfill God's purpose for your life in Christian service. After completion of this course and prayerful guidance from God we know that you will successfully begin to carry out your purpose in one of these ministries.

Remember, God Created You,
Jesus Saved You,
The Holy Spirit Guides You,
And, We All Love You

Welcome, Welcome, Welcome

Yours Because of Christ,

Dale W. Flowers,
Pastor

The History of New Sunlight Missionary Baptist Church

New Sunlight Missionary Baptist Church was organized in 1909 under the leadership of Reverend Samuel Williams, who at that time, was the Pastor of Mount Moriah Baptist Church located on Old Hammond Highway. The Church that is now known as New Sunlight Missionary Baptist Church was originally named Mount Moriah Number Two primarily because about fifty members from the first Mount Moriah moved to the city because of inadequate transportation for getting to and from the original church. These members then organized and held church services in a hall located on Knox Street.

In 1912 a lot was purchased for the sum of four-hundred-fifty (\$450.00) dollars, and a framed building was constructed. The newly constructed building was given the name New Sunlight Missionary Baptist Church.

In 1922 death took the beloved Reverend Samuel Williams. He was succeeded by Reverend Isaac J. Anderson. Under his administration the membership built a larger structure of stone.

Reverend Anderson died in 1939 and was succeeded by Reverend Daniel Smith. Under his leadership, the members expanded the rear of the church to include a kitchen, a dining area and two choir stands. As the Pastor, he served faithfully until his death in 1942.

In 1942 Reverend Louis Brown was called to the pastorate of this great church where he served faithfully until his death in 1951. He had the sanctuary floored and hardwood and a new piano.

The Reverend Edward W. Brown's services were secured in 1951. Under his leadership an organ, pews and song books were purchased. It was under his leadership that interior renovations were made and the building fund for this new church began. He also had a salary initiated for the Pastor, and many intrinsic values were derived.

Reverend Brown resigned in 1958 to accept the pastorate of Antioch in Beaumont, Texas. The Reverend Joseph R. Williams, endowed with a rich background and outstanding leadership ability was called to the pastorate of New Sunlight.

Under Reverend Williams' leadership the current edifice was constructed in 1970. Interior renovations were made to add classrooms and the enlargement of the fellowship hall in 1993. Land was purchased to expand the parking lot and several auxiliary programs were formed. These include the Lena S. Johnson Scholarship Fund, organized in 1969. The Male Chorus was formed in 1990 and the Mass Choir organized in 1992. Family and Friends Day was started in 1992 and the Summer Enrichment Program in 1993. The After School Tutorial Program was started in 1995 and the New Sunlight Newsletter was established in 1997. Reverend Williams, having served New Sunlight faithfully for forty-two years died in June 2000.

The Reverend Dale W. Flowers followed in the footsteps of Reverend Williams in September of 2000. Under Reverend Flowers' leadership additional

land with a building was purchased for a Daycare Center and additional parking. A new electric piano was purchased and carpet replaced in the sanctuary. The Pastor's study was enlarged and the church obtained its 501 © non-profit status. A breakfast program was started for the homeless. Reverend Flowers presented a ten-year vision plan for the church entitled Vision 2011 and a Web Page was constructed. An additional worship service was added in September of 2006 and various ministries have been added to meet the needs of the members of New Sunlight and the community at large.

New Sunlight has a rich history and we are excited about the wonderful work God will perform through us in the future. We are elated that you, as a member, will be a part of that bright future as we strive for excellence in all we do.

Lesson 1

The Holy Trinity

Facts For Christians

The God that we serve exist in three persons (Genesis 1:26, 11:7, Isaiah 48:16, Luke 1:35). (1)God The Father, (2)God The Son, and (3)God the Holy Spirit. These three as one make up the Holy Trinity. **All Christians must know these basic fact regarding each of them.**

God The Father

God is the creator of all things. (Genesis 1-2:1-3) In six days God created the Heaven and the earth. He created all living creatures and provided all that every creature would need to survive.

All Christians must believe that God is real. (Hebrews 11:6) God is not the result of a vivid imagination. He is real and without *faith* in Him we are nothing. It is God who sustains us in all things at all times.

God is a personal being. (Jeremiah 29:13) God is not an inanimate object. He is not an it, but rather a personal being. When we search for Him with our whole heart we will find Him. We acknowledge His person with such titles as Father, Shepherd, Friend and Counselor to name a few.

God is a spiritual being. (Numbers 23:19, John 4:24) God is not a human being. He is a spirit. And if we are to have true communication with Him it must be spiritual. Humans too are spiritual beings. The flesh is only used to house our spirits for existence here on earth. Acceptance of this fact allows believers to both hear from and speak to God.

Jehovah is the only God. (Isaiah 44:6, I Corinthians 8:4-6, I Timothy 2:5) The God that we serve, Jehovah, is the *Only True and Living God*. There is no other God, end of story. Some serve and worship the earth, moon or sun. Others worship objects made by man. Christians serve the God that created the earth, moon, sun. We worship the God that created the man that made the object.

God hates sin. (Isaiah 59:2, Amos 5:21-23, Romans 6:23) God hates sin because of it's end result on us, destruction and death. But because of His love for us God provided a way of deliverance from sin for us, Jesus.

God loves humans. (John 3:16) While God does indeed hate sin he loves humans

that committee sin. He loves us so that He sent His only Son, Jesus, to suffer and die for our sins thereby granting us eternal life.

God is omniscient. (Psalm 139:12, Isaiah 40:13-14, Luke 12:7, John 2:24-25)
Nothing is hidden from God. He has infinite knowledge, awareness and wisdom. He knows the inner most thoughts of humans. God is able to search our hearts and minds and knows the number of hairs on our heads.

God is omnipresent. (I Kings 8:27, Jeremiah 23:24, Psalm 139:7-10, Hebrews 13:5) God is everywhere at all times. There are no hiding places from God. There is no place where anyone can escape the presence of God.

God is omnipotent. (Job 9:19, Isaiah 40:28, Hebrews 1:3, Revelation 19:6) There is none as powerful as God. He is the *Almighty*.

Review of God The Father:

1. What does God hate? (Isaiah 59:2, Amos 5:21-23) _____.
2. God is everywhere at all times. (I Kings 8:27, Jeremiah 23:24, Psalm 139:7-10)
This is called?_____.
3. God exist in three persons. Who are they?_____
- _____.
4. What did God create? (Genesis 1:1-2:1 3)_____.
5. God has all power. What is this called? (Job 9:19, Isaiah 40:28, Hebrews 1:3, Revelation 19:6)_____.
6. How did God display His love for the world?
(John 3:16)_____.
7. What is God? (Numbers 23:19, John 4:24)_____.
8. All Christians must believe that God is _____(Hebrews 11:6).

All Christians must know these basic facts regarding the Son of God:

God The Son

Jesus was there in the beginning. (Genesis 1:26, 11:7, Isaiah 48:16, John 1:1-5) Jesus has always existed. Jesus was present with God before the beginning. He worked with God to create everything that was created.

Jesus was foretold of in Old Testament scripture. (Isaiah 7:10-15, Micah 5:2-5) God in His infinite wisdom knew that His people needed a savior. Sin held His people captives and He had to provide a way of escape from sin and a bridge to Himself. The foretelling of the coming messiah provided hope and encouragement for His people.

Jesus was sent by God. (John 3:16) God, because of His love for human beings, sent His Son to serve as the ultimate sacrifice to cleanse our sins. God sent His Very Best to suffer and die in our place so all that believe in Jesus and accept Him as Lord and Savior would receive eternal life.

Jesus was born of a woman. (Luke 2:1-7) Jesus entered this earth, in His human form, just as every man has since Eve gave birth to Cain, He was born of a woman. Mary gave birth to Jesus in a barn and used an animal feeding trough for His bed.

Jesus was an example for all Christians. (Luke 2:49-52, Matthew 3:13-17, 4:1-11 Mark 6:30-43, Luke 23:34, John 19:26-27) Jesus was obedient to His parents, baptized, resisted temptation from Satan, had compassion for others, made provisions for them, loved His enemies and cared for His family. These are just a few areas where we find Jesus setting the example. A search of the scripture will reveal Jesus setting the example or teaching the proper manner to live as Christians.

Jesus died. (Matthew 27:45-56, Luke 23:44-49, John 19:28-30) Jesus died. He did not faint. He died. He did not lapse into a coma. He died. There is no refuting this fact. Everyone, on the day of His death, both enemies and loved ones all agreed that Jesus died.

Jesus was buried. (Matthew 27:57-60, Mark 15:42-47, Luke 23:50-56, John 19:38-42) After Jesus died His body was taken by Joseph of Arimathea and placed in a tomb that Joseph had purchased for himself. A stone was placed across the opening of the tomb and Pilate sent soldiers to guard the tomb.

Jesus was resurrected. (Matthew 28: 1-10, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24:1-2, John 20:1-10) Death nor the grave had the power to hold Jesus captive. He overcame them

both for our sake.

Jesus ascended to Heaven. (Act 1:4-11) Jesus returned to His Father and now after having saved us intercedes on our behalf to God.

Review of Jesus:

- | | | | |
|---|------|----|-------|
| 1. Jesus did not die. | True | or | False |
| 2. Jesus never left Heaven. | True | or | False |
| 3. Jesus died for the sins of the world. | True | or | False |
| 4. The Old Testament dos not mention Jesus. | True | or | False |
| 5. Jesus is the Son of God. | True | or | False |
| 6. Jesus was baptized. | True | or | False |
| 7. Jesus never obeyed Joseph and Mary. | True | or | False |
| 8. Jesus is now in Heaven. | True | or | False |
| 9. Jesus did not resist temptation. | True | or | False |
| 10. Jesus was resurrected. | True | or | False |

All Christians must know these basic facts about the:

Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit was there in the beginning. (Genesis 1:26, 11:7, Isaiah 48:16)
The Holy Spirit was present with God The Father and Jesus The Son before the beginning.

The Holy Spirit is personal, not impersonal. (John 16:17, 15:26, 16:7-8) The Spirit is revealed as Him not It. The Holy Spirit is the direct agent between heaven and earth in this gospel age.

The Holy Spirit regenerates. (II Corinthians 3:6, Romans 8:11) The Holy Spirit converts or reforms us, believers, completely.

The Holy Spirit teaches. (John 14:26, 16:12-14) When we study the word of God we must ask for the aide of the Holy Spirit to *teach us* the information that God desires we have knowledge of.

The Holy Spirit guides. (Romans 8:14, Galatians 5:16, 18) In order to live a successful Christian life all Christians must rely on the guidance of the Holy Spirit. He leads believers in all truths. He will never lead us in the wrong direction or in any way that is contrary to God.

The Holy Spirit Convicts believers of sin. (John 16:5-11) The Holy Spirit is here to show all the truth about sin. That it is a destructive force, contrary to God and His Will and that it, if not forgiven, leads to death.

The Holy Spirit gives inspiration. (II Timothy 3:16, II Peter 1:21) The Holy Spirit gives insight and inspiration to all believers.

The Holy Spirit provides comfort. (John 14:16, Acts 9:31) The Holy Spirit comforts believers in restless times. There are times in the life of a believer when the circumstances of life seem unbearable. God in His infinite wisdom has sent the Holy Spirit to comfort believers at such times.

The Holy Spirit is a gift from God. (John 14:15-26, Acts 2:1-4) God has sent the Holy Spirit to believers as a gift. He expects His children to make use of all that He provides.

The Holy Spirit is a helper to believers. (Romans 8:26) God knows that believers cannot survive in this hostile world without someone helping them. His Holy Spirit helps believers navigate the sometimes harsh environment of this world.

Review of The Holy Spirit:

1. The Holy Spirit provides _____ (John 14:16) for believers?
2. The Holy Spirit is a _____(John 14:15-26) from God?
3. The Holy Spirit _____ (John 16:5-11) believers of sin.
4. The Holy Spirit is a _____(Romans 8:14) to believers.
5. When believers need help they can call on (Romans 8:26)_____.
6. The Holy Spirit _____(II Corinthians 3:6) all believers.
7. God the Father, Son and _____(Genesis 1:26, 11:7) were there in the beginning.
8. The Holy Spirit teaches believers. True or False
9. The Holy Spirit is impersonal. True or False

Lesson 2

Salvation

All Christians must know these basic facts about:

Salvation

Salvation is the transformation of a person's individual nature and relationship with God as a result of repentance and faith in the atoning death of Jesus Christ on the cross. All humanity stands in need of salvation which is only possible through faith in Christ Jesus. Believers are saved by grace through faith for good works (Ephesians 2:8-10).

Because of Adam's "Fall," (Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-11) all humans required a plan of salvation. God's word assures all that accept Christ as Lord and Savior that salvation belongs to them (I John 5:10-13) and that they are saved (John 6:37).

Scriptures regarding salvation:

Deuteronomy 30:19-20

Matthew 1:21

Matthew 11:28-30

Matthew 18:14

Mark 16: 15-16

Humans are unable to save themselves. God provided a means of salvation for the world and all credit belongs to God (Ephesians 2:8-9).

God provides the following through Salvation:

Access to God. (Romans 5:1-2, Ephesians 2:13) Before Jesus suffered and died in our place for our sins individuals only had access to God through the high priest. But because Christ is salvation for believers all believers have access to God through Christ Jesus. There is no need to go through another human being to have access to God.

Adoption into God's family. (John 1:12, Romans 8:22-24, Galatians 4:4-7) Through salvation God has adopted and accepted believers as His children. Because of salvation believers are able to see God as their Father.

Forgiveness of sin. (Psalm 32:1-2, Matthew 26:28, Acts 5:30-31) All human beings commit sin. An offering to God must be rendered by the sinner to receive forgiveness. Jesus Christ is *The Offering* to God for all believers. Salvation blots out the sinful deeds of believers and saves us from sin which, if not forgiven leads to eternal damnation.

Peace with God. (Ephesians 2:13-17, Isaiah 53:3, John 16: 33) Salvation removes the hostility that exists between humans and God and replaces hostility with peace. Without salvation there will always be turmoil between humans and God.

A New Life. (II Corinthians 5:17, Romans 6:4, Galatians 6:14) Without salvation humans remain in the adamic state, the nature of Adam. That state or nature causes humans to satisfy their flesh while neglecting their souls. Salvation begins with a spiritual rebirth that causes believers to live spiritually as opposed to carnally.

Deliverance from the power of sin. (Romans 6:14, 7:21-25, 8:2-4, Galatians 1:3-5)

Sin does not have a hold on believers because God has granted believers salvation. Without salvation humans are slaves to sin. Once salvation is received, the believer is no longer a prisoner to sin.

The Conversion Experience

In order to be saved or receive salvation, a conversion, or turn must take place. In order for that conversion take place a person must trust in God as a child has trust in his or her parents (Matthew 18:3). Humans must turn to God from sin (Acts 14:15, I Thessalonians 1:8-9). There are three steps in this process. While they are listed here in sequence they may also occur simultaneously.

Conviction is the state humans find themselves in when they acknowledge their sinful condition. It is a remorseful condition (Acts 2:36-37). Once this condition is acknowledged the person must then confess of their sins (Acts 19:18).

Repentance is the second step in the conversion process (Mark 1:15, Luke 5:32). Repentance is an essential element in the salvation experience. At this point a person not only acknowledges his or her sinful state, but also realizes that turning to God is the only way out of this sinful state. When a person repents it causes Heaven to rejoice (Luke 15:7). Jesus instructed His disciples to preach repentance (Luke 24:47).

Faith is the final step in the conversion experience. Faith is simply trust in God for, and in all things (Hebrews 11:1). A person must trust that Jesus can save him or her (John 3:16). A person must trust that God can and will supply his or her needs (Philippians 4:19). The only means of pleasing God is by trusting Him (Hebrews 11:6).

All Believers Must Be Born Again

Jesus tells us that the only way an individual will see the Kingdom of God is to be born again (John 3:3). This rebirth is spiritual and must take place in order to be reborn. Following is a list of scriptures regarding rebirth and why it is needed.

The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus

our Lord. (Romans 6:23 KJV)

If a person is not born again, sin will lead to his or her death. Death is separation from God forever.

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath sent Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. (Romans 10:9 KJV)

Rebirth involves publicly confessing Jesus Christ as Lord and belief in God and His ability to save in the heart.

But that the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost. (Titus 3:4-5 KJV)

A humans works cannot save them, Only God has that power.

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved. (Romans 10:13 KJV)

God promised that he would save all that called upon Him.

If you have not allowed Jesus Christ to be your personal Savior pray earnestly and honestly the following prayer:

Dear God. I know that I have sinned by breaking your laws and I ask forgiveness. I believe that Jesus died for my sins. I want to be born again and receive new life in Him. I will follow Jesus as my Lord and obey Him in all that I do. In the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.

Review of Salvation:

1. Believers can go to Heaven without being saved. True or False
2. Humans have the ability to save themselves. True or False

3. Because of salvation believers are forgiven of sins. True or False
4. Because of salvation believers have peace with God True or False
5. God saves all who call upon Him. True or False
6. What are the three steps in the conversion experience?

7. What is the change in the life of a believer (II Corinthians 5:17, Romans 6:4)

_____.

8. The wages of sin is (Romans 6:23) _____.
9. Salvation delivers believers from the _____(Romans 6:14).
10. Repentance is the _____step in the conversion experience.

All believers should know the basic facts about:

The Church

God calls believers into fellowship with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Believers are told to assemble together to encourage each other (Hebrews 10:25). Jesus in His instruction to His disciples gives us the purpose of the church in what is known as the Great Commission. There He states:

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. (Matthew 28:19-20 KJV)

The responsibility of the church is to spread and share the good news of the gospel throughout the world. To that end members of the church have the privilege of serving God and their fellow man. Some of the basic responsibilities of church members (Christians) are as follows:

Love the church: (Ephesians 5:25) Just as Christ loved believers, the church, believers are to love one another (the church). There must be love among and between members of the church. Christ set the example in this area by giving Himself for the church. We as the church ought to give of our time, talent and resources to the church.

Worship the Lord. (Psalm 95:6, 96:6, 150) God desires the worship and praise of His people. The church is meeting the place where believers assemble to offer worship and praise to God as one. Worship and praise of God is both public and private (Matthew 6:6, Luke 4:16). The church is the physical location where believers can offer uninterrupted worship and praise to God.

Serve the Lord. (Luke 22:21, John 9:4, I Corinthians 10:31, 15:58) God calls all believers into service. God has placed within each believer a gift that is to be used to bring Him glory. In service to the church we are to use those God-given gifts.

Keep God's commandments. (John 14:21, John 15:10, 14) By adhering to God's commandments believers show their love for God. While no one is sinless all believers should always be striving to remain obedient to the Word of God.

Support the ministry. (Proverbs 3:9, Malachi 3:8-12, Luke 6:38, II Corinthians 9:7) Believers provide the financial assistance needed to sustain the operations of the church. We must give financially as God has prospered us. By properly giving to the church we give to ourselves. How? When believers give to God He blesses them in return.

Review of The Church:

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Believers are not required to serve God. | True or False |
| 2. Jesus loved the church. | True or False |
| 3. God does not desire the worship of believers. | True or False |
| 4. Believers should support the ministry. | True or False |
| 5. Believers don't have to share the gospel. | True or False |
| 6. Believers don't have to keep God's commandments. | True or False |
| 7. Believers serve God and man. | True or False |

Ordinances of the Church:

Ordinance - An authoritative decree or law.

Jesus commands the Christian Church to observe two ordinances, ***Baptism*** and the ***Lord's Supper***. There are some basic fact all Christians must know regarding each of these ordinances:

Baptism

The Ordinance of Baptism is a symbol of the believer's identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection (Romans 6:3, Colossians 2:12). Baptism means to be entirely immersed or submerged in water (Mark 1:5, John 3:33).

Christians must know that Baptism:

Was commanded by Christ. (Matthew 28:19) Jesus tell believers that they must baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Does not save. (Mark 16:16) Belief in Christ saves, not baptism. Baptism is the outward expression of believer's of their willness to follow Christ.

Water is used to perform baptism. (Acts 10:47-48 I Peter 3:21) Water is a cleansing agent and is used symbolically as the washing away of sin.

Christians must also be baptized into Christ.

Baptism into Christ signifies that believers have been buried and risen with Christ. (Romans 6:3-7)

Believers are baptized by one Spirit into one body. The body of Christ. (I Corinthians 12:13)

Believers are baptized into Christ. (Galatians 3:27)

Believers are buried with Christ in baptism and rise with Him through faith. (Colossians 3:11-13).

There are two types of Baptism:

- Spirit
- Water

Spirit Baptism:

Baptism of the Spirit is the act of the Holy Spirit when He makes us apart of the body of Christ (I Corinthians 12:13). Every believer experiences this baptism. It takes place the very moment we believe and receive Jesus Christ as Savior (Ephesians 4:5, Colossians 2:12, I Peter 3:21, Mark 1:4-8)

Water Baptism:

By being submerged in water believers symbolize we are baptized into the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. Believers are cut off from the Adamic life because of baptism into the death of Christ. (Romans 6:3-7)

In order that humans are baptized they must first believe that Jesus is the Son of God. (Acts 8:37-39)

Believers must know these basic facts about:

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper took place before the death of Christ. Jesus and His disciples went into a closed room where He washed their feet and shared with them bread and wine, which symbolized the body and blood of Christ. As Believers partake of the Lord's Supper, we must remember Christ, receive strength from Him and rededicate ourselves to Him and His cause. (I Corinthians 11:23-34)

The Lord's Supper is an established ordinance. (Matthew 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:15-20, I Corinthians 11:23-26) Jesus established the Lord's Supper and expects all believers to continue to participate in it.

The Lord's Supper was given to the Church. (Luke 22:17-20, I Corinthians 11:18) The Church, believers, are expected to remain obedient to Christ in all things.

The Lord's Supper is a memorial to the death of our Lord and Savior. (Mark 14:22)

The Lord's Supper Is Called:

- Communion (I Corinthians 10:16)
- The Breaking of Bread (Acts 2:42, 46, 20:7)
- The Cup of Blessing (I Corinthians 10:16)
- The Eucharist
- The Last Supper

- The Lord's Supper (I Corinthians 11:20)
- The Lord's Table (I Corinthians 10:21)

Symbols used in the Lord's Supper and their significance:

- The **Table** is the place of love, fellowship, sharing and communion. It is the family table- a love feast - a meal. (Leviticus 24:5-9, Psalm 23:5)
- The **Bread** (Isaiah 53:5) represents His broken body (Matthew 26:26). It is the type of the Lamb that was slain.
- The **Wine** is a symbol of the Blood of Christ that was shed for our sins, which we as believers do in remembrance of the Lord. During the Lord's Supper, we ask for forgiveness of all our sins. It represents the New Covenant (Matthew 26:27).

The believer should do as follows as they prepare to partake of the Lord's Supper:

Come:

In remembrance of Christ's death on the cross for "me" (I Corinthians 11:23-26).

To the table with a desire to participate (Luke 22:14-15).

In faith (Hebrews 4:2, 11:6, Romans 14:23).

In remembrance of what Christ did for you (I Corinthians 11: 23-26). The Israelites remembered sins. His Church remembers Him.

With Thanksgiving (Luke 22:17).

Examining their hearts (I Corinthians 11:28) making sure we are in the right standing with God and our brothers and sisters (I Corinthians 11:27, Psalm 24:3-5).

With a repentant and thankful heart (I Corinthians 10:21)

In a spirit of fellowship and love (I Corinthians 10:16-17)

In Holy fear (Matthew 26:24, I Corinthians 11:27-32).

In self examination (I Corinthians 11:28).

With a threefold look at Christ.

- A **backward look** to Calvary - Jesus' death - His suffering for us.
- An **Upward look** to Heaven - Jesus' resurrection - His ascension - sitting at the right hand of the Father.
- A **Forward look** to Jesus' coming when we will meet Him.

Review of Church Ordinances:

1. How many ordinances are there in the church? _____.
2. What are those ordinances? _____,
_____.
3. Bread and wine represent the _____ and
_____ of Jesus Christ.
4. What are three names used to describe the Lord's Supper?
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
 - C. _____.
5. Believers come to partake of the Lord's Supper in (Luke 22:17)
_____.
6. The table is a place of _____,
_____, and _____.
7. What are the two types of baptism? _____ and
_____.
8. Does baptism save sinners? (Mark 16:16) _____.
9. Did Jesus command believers to baptize? (Matthew 28: 19) _____.
10. What property is used to perform baptism? (Acts 10:47-48)
_____.

Lesson 3
God's Word, Prayer and Tithe

Holy Bible

Believers must know these basic facts about the Bible:

"Bible" derives from the Greek term "books" and refers to the Old and New Testaments. God's Holy Scriptures, the Holy Bible, was written by men divinely inspired by God and it records God's revelation of Himself to humans. It has God, the Holy Spirit for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without mixture of error for its matter. The Bible above all talks about God and His relationship to the world. The Bible is a rule or standard of authority for Christians.

The Bible is divided into two parts. The Old Testament which was primarily written in Hebrew, with some portions of Ezra-Nehemiah and Daniel in Aramaic, consist of thirty-nine books. The New Testament which was written in Greek, consists of twenty-seven books. Combined, there are sixty-six books in the entire Bible. These are the books of the Bible:

Old Testament

5 Books of The Law

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers

The 12 Books of History

Joshua	I Chronicles
Judges	II Chronicles
I Samuel	Ezra
II Samuel	Nehemiah
I King	
II Kings	

5 Books of Poetry

Job
Psalm
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Solomon

New Testament

The Four Gospels

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

1 Book of History

Acts

The 21 Letters

Romans	Titus
I Corinthians	Philemon
II Corinthians	Hebrews
Galatians	James
Ephesians	I Peter
Philippians	II Peter
Colossians	I John
I Thessalonians	II John
II Thessalonians	III John
I Timothy	Jude
II Timothy	

17 Books of Prophecy

Isaiah Jonah
Jeremiah Micah
Lamentation Nahum
Ezekiel Habakkuk
Daniel Zephaniah
Hosea Haggai
Joel Zechariah
Amos Malachi
Obadiah

1 Book of Prophecy

Revelation

The Bible:

- *Is life to believers* (Deuteronomy 8:3)
- *Enlightens believers* (Psalm 119:103-105)
- *Is knowledge and power to believers* (Matthew 22:29)
- *Offers comfort to believers* (Romans 15:4)
- *Tells believers that God loved them first* (I John 4:19)
- *List the Commandments of God* (Exodus 20)
- *List the greatest Commandment* (Matthew 22:41-46, Mark 12:28-31)
- *Inform believers of the fact that God is the Shepherd to His people* (Psalm 23)
- *Tells believers of the power of faith* (Matthew 21:18-22)
- *Tells Believers of the power of God over all things* (Mark 4:35-41)
- *Tells believers of the power of prayer and praise* (Acts 16:23-26)
- *Tells believers that all are sinners* (Romans 3:23)
- *Tells believers that they are free from sin* (Romans 6:12-14)
- *Tells believers that they must act on what they hear in or from the Word of God* (James 1:22-25)
- *Tells believers that their faith is displayed in their actions* (James 2:14)
- *Tells believers that Jesus will return* (I Thessalonians 4:16)

Listed here are only a few subjects that are revealed in the Bible and they only scratch the surface of what God wants to reveal to His children through the study of His word.

Review of The Holy Bible:

1. The Bible is divided into two parts, they are the _____ and _____.
2. How many books make up the Old Testament?
_____.
3. How many books are there total in the Bible? _____.
4. Who is the author of the Bible? _____.
5. The Bible tells believers that their _____ is displayed in their
a
Actions? (James 2:14)
6. The Bible does not tell believers that Jesus will return. (I Thessalonians 4:16)

True or False
7. The Bible tells believers that there is power in their praise. (Acts 16:23-26)

True or False
8. The Bible tells believers that they loved God first. (I John 4:19)

True or False
9. The Bible tells believers that they can never be free from sin.
(Romans 6:12-14)

True or False
10. God is the Shepherd of His people.

True or False

Prayer

Prayer is the means of communication between God and believers. It is the believers greatest weapon. It is used to both talk too and hear from God. When properly used it allows the believer to speak intimately with God and strengthens the relationship between believers and God.

Prayer is:

Commanded by God (Luke 18:1) Believers must be obedient to God in all things that He has commanded them to do. Believers must always pray and never loose hope.

The means by which believers do great things (James 5:16) Prayer turns the request of believers into reality. Through prayer the believer can make a difference in his of her life and the lives of others that he or she prays for.

Taught by Christ (Matthew 6:5-15) Believers must pray in a manner that is consistent with what Christ teaches and it must be done daily.

Must be done in the name of Jesus (John 14:13) Believers must make all request to the Father in the name of Jesus.

Needed in critical moments (Matthew 26:36-42, Mark 14:32-42, Luke 22:39-46) Jesus went in prayer to God the night before His death. At the most crucial moment of His life the example Christ displays to believers is to take your troubles to God in prayer.

Is sometimes public (John 11:41-42) Jesus tells believers to go into their closet to pray both in private and public (Matthew 6:6).

How Should Believers Begin Prayer?

Prayers must begin with respect and admiration to God. Address God as "Our Father" (Matthew 6:9). Some other titles are: Dear Heavenly Father, Gracious Father In Heaven, Our Loving Father, Dear God, to name a few.

How Should Believers End Prayer?

Prayer to God should always come to a close "In the name of Jesus." Believers must make request in Jesus' name because God has given Christ authority.

"Amen," should end every prayer of believers. Amen is the transliteration of Hebrew word signifying something as certain, sure and valid, truthful and faithful. It is sometimes translated, "so be it."

Review of Prayer:

1. Believers should never pray in public.

True or False

2. Jesus did not teach on prayer.

True or False

3. Prayer is needed in critical moments.

True or False

4. Prayer was commanded by God.

True or False

5. Believers don't have to pray in the name of Jesus.

True or False

6. A prayer should never end with "Amen."

True or False

7. Prayer is not the way to communicate with God.

True or False

8. Prayer is a time to speak and not listen.

True or False

9. Prayer strengthen the relationship between God and man.

True or False

Tithe and Offering

God has a financial plan for His Church. He works by plans and has a plan for everything. He had a plan when He created the earth and Humans. He had a plan for the relationship between humans and Himself. He has a plan for the family. He has a plan of salvation and the work of the Church. He has a plan for the financing of the work He has ordered the Church to perform.

Tithe - Tenth part, especially as offer to God.

Abraham presented a tithe to the Priest-king of Jerusalem, Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18-20).

Jacob pledged to offer to God, a tenth of all that God would bless Jacob with (Genesis 28:22).

Old Testament

Purpose of Tithing?

The tithe was used for support of the Levites and the priests (Numbers 18:20-32).

The agricultural produce tithe was used for a family feast at the sanctuary celebrating God's provision (Deuteronomy 14:22-27).

The third year's tithe was to be used for the care of the Levites, orphans widows, and foreigners (Deuteronomy 14:28-29).

Consequences of Disobedience Regarding Tithing

Those that were disobedient in regards to tithing were condemned with a curse from God. (Malachi 3:8-9).

Results of Tithing

Those that are obedient in tithing are blessed by God in return (Malachi 3:10-12).

New Testament

Jesus Taught Tithing

In Malachi 3:1-4 we have a prophecy that the Lord will come and teach people how to live righteously and in a manner that is consistent with God's will. The fact is then stated that Israel has robbed God in not bringing the tithe to God. In Jesus Christ, Malachi's prophecy is fulfilled. Jesus taught in Matthew 23:23 that acceptable living includes the tithe and also the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy and faith. The tithe alone is not enough. Believers must live right also.

Other Teachings In The New Testament

I Corinthians 16:2 teaches that believers are to give "as God has prospered," us. This scripture teaches of giving above and beyond the tithe.

We believe in God's plan in everything, and we believe that every member of the church should be a tither, bringing to the Lord a tenth of their income. This plan of finance would meet all of the financial needs of the church. This in turn would mean God's people would be able to do mighty works for Him in carrying out the instructions of Christ in Matthew 28:19-20.

Review of Tithe and Offering:

1. What percentage of a person's income is the tithe? _____
2. What is the purpose of the tithe?
 - A. Numbers 18:20-32_____
 - B. Deuteronomy 14:22-27_____
 - C. Deuteronomy 14:28-29_____
3. What are the consequences disobedience regarding tithing? (Malachi 3:8-9)_____
4. What are the results of being obedient regarding tithing? (Malachi -3:10-12)_____
5. What did Jesus say should not be neglected even when a person tithes? (Matthew 23:23)_____

Lesson 4

Ministries of New Sunlight

Ministries

Brotherhood Ministry - This ministry provides fellowship, training and development of Christian men (members and non-members).

Choirs - The members of these ministries play a vital role in collectively lifting their voices in praise. During the worship experience they usher in the presence of the Holy Spirit and set the atmosphere for true praise and worship. They assist those present prepare our hearts and minds to receive a word from God by the preaching of His Word by the man of God. These choirs consist of:

The Ensemble - A small group of individuals committed to making a joyful noise unto the Lord.

The Male Chorus - A group of men united in praise to God.

The New Sunlight Choir - A group of Christians dedicated to collectively lifting their voices in praise to God.

The Youth Choir - A group of young people that are not afraid to show their love for God in song.

The Hallelujah Choir - A powerful group dedicated to giving their all in praise to God.

Clothing & Food Bank Ministry - This ministry attempts to show the love of God by providing clothing and physical nourishment for those in need.

Deacons Ministry - A group of men assembled together to work as a team to conduct the business matters of NSBC in accordance to the Will of God.

Deaconess Ministry - A group of women assemble together to serve the body of Christ and assist the Deacons Ministry when and where needed.

Drama Ministry - This ministry allows members to keep the drama where it belongs, in acting. They perform plays, skits and dramatizations throughout the year.

Lena S. Johnson Scholarship Ministry - This ministry provides encouragement and rewards to our students on a quarterly bases. They also provide financial assistance to qualified college and vocational students.

Liturgical Dance Ministry - This group worships God in dance.

Married Couples Ministry - This ministry provides fellowship between married couples while providing Godly instruction. By doing so, the marriage is strengthened and address

the problems that married couples face. (Members and Non Members)

Mission Ministry - This ministry provides service to and comfort for our members that are going through a period of illness.

Pastor's Aid Ministry - This ministry offers support to the pastor by assisting in meeting the financial needs of the pastor for education, travel and other occasions.

Singles Ministry - This ministry provides a time of fellowship for singles while teaching the Godly lifestyle of single persons.

Sunday School Ministry - This ministry provides a learning environment where one can obtain a better knowledge of God, experience His love and develop a relationship lifelong relationship with Him.

Ushers Ministry - This ministry assists in ushering in the presence of God during the worship experience by offering assistance wherever needed.

Young Adult (Collegiate) Ministry - This ministry provides a time of fellowship among persons between the ages 19 through 30. They come together to discuss relevant issues and are strengthened to walk as Christians in the world.

Youth Ministry - This ministry focuses on the young people of our Church and community. We attempt to develop God fearing, Bible believing youth that know their purpose in life and develop and use their God given gifts to bring glory to God.

Principles For Christian Service

New Sunlight Baptist Church is obedient to the Word of God. In doing so we strive to carry out our mission statement in our living. To that end we have adopted and adhere to five principles. They are as follows:

1. **Discipleship** - Service. Discipleship consist of being of service to others.
2. **Students** - Self Improvement. By being a Bible student we learn more about God and His will thus improving our own conditions as we are transformed into His likeness.
3. **Teachers** - As we learn and grow closer to God He wants us to share Him with others. We do so by teaching, through our living, what we have learned as students. While we will always be students, we must move to the dual role of student/teacher.
4. **Leaders** - Example Setters. Although we realize that none are perfect each of us should be striving to live a life that pleases God. We recognize that others, some that we are not aware of look to us for guidance and we must lead by example.
5. **Evangelists** - Soul Winners. This takes us back to the Great Commission and our mission statement. We must reach out to others.

Ask God, through prayer, to lead you to the place within His body where *He* wants you to serve. In the book of I Corinthians 12:12-31 the Apostle Paul tells us that there are many members that make up the body of Christ. Each member has a specific role or duty to perform. All members are vital to the body and no one member is more important than another.

Through the active participation in one or more ministries you will find that God can do a mighty work in, with and through you. You will grow in Christ through participation in the worship experience, Sunday School, Bible Study and others forms of Christian development offered here at New Sunlight. Your personal prayer life and Christian study time will also determine your Christian growth.

We are a church family where all are accepted for who we are, forgiven of what we've done and loved because of Christ. As we move forward in God's Will we are persuaded that He has already made the way and fought the battles. We claim the victory but know that the work must be performed by us. We as a church are committed to rolling up our sleeves and doing a mighty work for the Lord.

God has given us a vision and while we may not be able to see it with our natural sight, we as His people will not be deterred because *we walk by faith and not by sight*. For that reason, and because God is with us, our future is bright.

Again, Welcome To New Sunlight Baptist Church